

Application No. 09/977,019

RXSD 1014-1

**REMARKS**

In the Official Action mailed 22 October 2003, the Examiner reviewed claims 1-11, 13, 14, 16-20, 22-32, 34, 35, 37-41, 43-47 and 49-57. Claims 44-47, 50 and 52-57 are allowed. The Examiner objected to claims 1, 17, 22, 49 and 51 due to informalities; rejected claims 22-32, 34, 35, 37-41 and 43 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph; and rejected claims 1-11, 13, 17, 19, 20, 22-32, 34, 38, 40, 41 and 43 under 35 USC 102(e). The Examiner indicated that claims 14, 16, 18, 35, 37, and 39 include allowable subject matter.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 16, 17, 18, 22, 37, 39, 49 and 51, and canceled claims 14 and 35. Claims 1-11, 13, 16-20, 22-32, 34, 37-41, 43-47 and 49-57 remain pending. Each of the Examiner's objections and rejections is respectfully traversed below.

**Objection to Claims 1, 17, 22, 49 and 51 due to informalities**

Claims 1, 17, 22, 49 and 51 are objected to because of informalities. Applicant has amended such claims, without loss of scope, as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration of the objections is respectfully requested, in view of the amendments.

**Rejection of Claims 22-32, 34, 35, 37-41 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph**

Claims 22-32, 34, 35, 37-41 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 35 is canceled. The Examiner identified issues in claim 22, from which all other claims in the list depend.

Claim 22, 37, 39 and 41 have been amended, without loss of scope, to address the issues raised by the Examiner.

Accordingly, reconsideration of rejection of claims 22-32, 35, 37-41 and 43, as amended is respectfully requested.

**Rejection of Claims 1-11, 13, 17, 19, 20, 22-32, 34, 38, 40, 41 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)**

Claims 1-11, 13, 17, 19, 20, 22-32, 34, 38, 40, 41 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hou ('988). The independent claims 1 and 22 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 14 and 35, respectively, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection under 35 USC 102(e) is requested in view of the amendment.

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Objection to Claims 14, 16 and 18 as dependent upon a rejected base claim

Claims 14, 16 and 18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 14. Claim 14 is canceled. Claims 16 and 18 have been rewritten herein in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, reconsideration of the objection to claims 16 and 18 is requested in view of the amendment.

Claims 35, 37 and 39 dependent upon a rejected base claim

The Examiner stated that claims 35, 37 and 39 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as above, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As discussed above, the claims have been amended to address the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claim 22 has been amended to including the subject matter of claim 35. Claim 35 is canceled. Claims 37 and 39 have been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of previous claim 22. Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are now in condition for allowance.

**CONCLUSION**

It is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee determined to be due in connection with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0869 (RXSD 1014-1).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: B. BeffelMark A. Haynes  
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